

REFERENCE TITLE: radiation exposure; compensation; Mohave county

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Introduced by

Representatives McLain, Barnes, Downing, Groe, Jones, Kirkpatrick, Landrum Taylor, Mason, Prezelski: Aguirre A, Allen J, Alvarez, Anderson, Biggs, Bradley, Brown, Burges, Burns J, Burton Cahill, Gallardo, Garcia M, Gorman, Gray C, Hershberger, Knaperek, Lopes, Lopez L, Lujan, McClure, McComish, McCune Davis, Meza, Murphy, Nelson, Nichols, Paton, Reagan, Rios P, Rosati, Stump, Tully, Weiers JP, Yarbrough, Senators Arzberger, Cannell

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO AMEND THE RADIATION EXPOSURE COMPENSATION ACT TO INCLUDE MOHAVE COUNTY.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States of America:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, fallout emitted during the United States government's
4 aboveground nuclear tests in Nevada exposed individuals who lived in the
5 downwind affected area in Nevada, Utah and Arizona to radiation that is
6 presumed to have generated an excess of cancers among these individuals; and

7 Whereas, the health of the individuals who were unwitting participants
8 in these tests was put at risk to serve the national security interests of
9 the United States; and

10 Whereas, the United States has recognized and assumed responsibility
11 for the harm done to these individuals; and

12 Whereas, in 1990 the United States Congress enacted the Radiation
13 Exposure Compensation Act to establish a procedure to make partial
14 restitution to the individuals who lived in the downwind affected area in
15 Nevada, Utah and Arizona for the burdens they have borne for the nation as a
16 whole; and

17 Whereas, the original Radiation Exposure Compensation Act specified
18 that eligible persons who lived in the part of Arizona that is north of the
19 Grand Canyon and west of the Colorado River were permitted to file a claim
20 for restitution under the Act; and

21 Whereas, portions of Mohave County are located in the area specified in
22 the original Radiation Exposure Compensation Act as a part of the downwind
23 affected area; and

24 Whereas, in 2000 the United States Congress amended the Radiation
25 Exposure Compensation Act to specify that eligible persons living in the
26 Arizona counties of Coconino, Yavapai, Navajo, Apache and Gila were permitted
27 to file a claim for restitution under the Act; and

28 Whereas, the amended Radiation Exposure Compensation Act fails to
29 include Mohave County as a part of the downwind affected area; and

30 Whereas, wind-pattern photos indicate Mohave County was hit by
31 radiation fallout and statistics show that residents of Mohave County suffer
32 a high incidence of cancers caused by radiation fallout.

33 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of
34 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

35 1. That the Congress of the United States amend the Radiation Exposure
36 Compensation Act to specify that eligible persons living in Mohave County may
37 file a claim for restitution under the Act.

38 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies
39 of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of
40 the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from
41 the State of Arizona.